Distr.
GENERAL

GC.8/1
2 August 1999

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Eighth session
Vienna, 29 November - 3 December 1999
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers:
   (a) Election of the President;
   (b) Election of other officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organization of work.
5. Credentials of representatives to the Conference.
6. Elections to organs:
   (a) Industrial Development Board;
   (b) Programme and Budget Committee.
7. Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sessions.
8. Annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization for 1997 and 1998.
9. Forum on industrial development.
10. Policy framework of UNIDO.
11. Financial matters:
   (a) Financial situation of UNIDO, including arrears;
   (b) Audit-related matters;
   (c) Adjustments to the programme and budgets for the 1998-1999 biennium;
   (d) Scale of assessments of Member States;
   (e) Working Capital Fund;
   (f) Appointment of external auditor;
   (g) Implications of the euro for UNIDO.
12. Mobilization of financial resources for UNIDO programmes (including Industrial Development Fund).
13. Medium-term programme framework, 2000-2003.
14. Programme and budgets, 2000-2001.
15. Development of human resources for industry.
16. Industrialization of the least developed countries.
17. The regional dimension:
   (a) Africa (in particular the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa);
   (b) Arab countries programme, including technical assistance to the Palestinian people;
   (c) Asia and the Pacific;
   (d) Latin America and the Caribbean;
   (e) Europe and NIS.
18. Personnel matters, including United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund.
19. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
20. Date and place of the ninth session.
21. Closure of the session.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.

V.99-87013 (E)

Distr.: 18 August 1999

Distr.
GENERAL

GC.8/1/Add.1
23 September 1999

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Eighth session
Vienna, 29 November-3 December 1999
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1. Opening of the session

In accordance with rule 34 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference, the President of the seventh session, or, in his absence, the head of the delegation from which the President of that session was elected (Netherlands), will open the eighth session of the General Conference.

Item 2. Election of officers[1]

At each regular session the Conference shall, with due regard for equitable geographical representation, elect, from among the representatives of Members, the following officers: a President and nine Vice-Presidents, as well as a Chairman for each Main Committee (rule 35). The officers elected shall constitute the General Committee.

(a) Election of the President

In accordance with rule 35 and appendix A of the rules of procedure, the President of the eighth session should be elected from the Asian States in List A of Annex I to the Constitution.

(b) Election of other officers

The nine Vice-Presidents shall be elected so as to ensure the representative character of the General Committee (rule 35.3). Should the Conference decide to establish Main Committees (see item 4 below), the Conference shall also elect a Chairman for each Main Committee.

Item 3. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with Article 9.4 (g) of the Constitution, the Industrial Development Board at its twenty-first session adopted the provisional agenda for the eighth session of the General Conference, as reflected in decision IDB.21/Dec.15. The provisional agenda to be submitted to the Conference for approval is contained in document GC.8/1.

Item 4. Organization of work

In accordance with rule 40, the officers elected shall constitute the General Committee. The General Committee

[1]To ensure equitable geographical distribution in the election of officers and the elections to organs, account has to be taken of the latest lists of States to be included in Annex I to the Constitution. The list, as of the date of preparation of the present document, is the same as that included in document GC.8/11. Before proceeding to the elections, as explained in para. 2 of that document, the General Conference will have to decide in which of the lists of States (A, B, C or D) a number of Member States are to be included.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.

V.99-88121 (E)

Distr.: 30 September 1999

shall propose to the Conference the establishment of Main Committees and of any other sessional bodies of the Conference. It shall propose to the Conference the allocation of items between the plenary meetings, the Main Committees and any other sessional bodies (rule 42). In the past, at each regular session the Conference established a Main Committee to which all the substantive items of the agenda were referred for a more focused debate aimed at the preparation of consensus draft decisions and resolutions for submission to the plenary. The Industrial Development Board, in decision IDB.21/Dec.15, paragraph (d), recommended to the Conference that items 7 to 19 of the provisional agenda be allocated to a main committee.

When considering the organization of work, it should be kept in mind that the budget for the Conference in the programme and budgets of UNIDO, 1998-1999, provides only for a total of five working days, comprising plenary, main committee and geographical group meetings. Moreover, in its decision on preparations for the General Conference (IDB.21/Dec.15), the Board agreed to hold a forum on industrial development within the framework of the Conference (item 9 of the provisional agenda). The draft tentative schedule for the eighth session of the Conference is shown in the annex to the present document.

Item 5. Credentials of representatives to the Conference

As stipulated in Article 8.1 of the Constitution of UNIDO, the Conference shall consist of representatives of all Members of the Organization. Membership in the Organization is defined in Article 3 of the Constitution. In accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the credentials of representatives and the names and titles of the other persons constituting the Member's delegation shall be submitted to the Director-General if possible not less than one week before the opening of the session which the delegation will attend. Any later change in the composition of the delegation also shall be submitted to the Director-General. The credentials of representatives shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned. A Permanent Representative to the Organization does not require special credentials if his/her letter of accreditation to the Organization specifies that he/she is authorized to represent his/her Government at sessions of the Conference, it being understood that this does not preclude that Government from accrediting another person as its representative by means of special credentials.

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference on the proposal of the President. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the United Nations General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, which is as follows: Austria, Bolivia, China, Philippines, Russian Federation, South Africa, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States of America. The Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report without delay to the Conference which shall decide any question arising (rule 28).

Item 6. Elections to organs

(a) Industrial Development Board

In accordance with Article 9.1 of the Constitution, the Industrial Development Board shall consist of 53 members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Board, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 33 members of the Board shall be elected from the States listed in Lists A and C, 15 from the States listed in List B, and 5 from the States listed in List D of Annex I to the Constitution.

In accordance with Article 9.2 of the Constitution, "members of the Board shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference four years thereafter... Members of the Board may be re-elected."

At present the Board is composed of the following States: Algeria**, Argentina**, Austria**, Belgium*, Brazil*, Bulgaria*, Cape Verde*, China*, Colombia*, Côte d'Ivoire**, Cuba**, Denmark*, Ecuador**, Egypt**, France*, Germany*, Ghana*, Greece*, Hungary*, India**,Indonesia*, Iran (Islamic Republic of)**, Italy*, Japan*, Kenya*, Kuwait**, Lesotho**, Luxembourg**, Madagascar**, Mexico**, Morocco*, Nigeria**, Norway**, Pakistan*, Paraguay*, Peru*, Poland**, Portugal**, Republic of Korea*, Romania*, Russian Federation**, Saudi Arabia**, Sierra Leone*, Spain**, Sudan**, Switzerland**, Syrian Arab Republic**, Thailand**, Tunisia*, Turkey**, United Arab Emirates*, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*, Uruguay**.

---

*Twenty-six States whose term of office expires at the close of the eighth regular session of the General Conference, in 1999 (see decision GC.6/Dec.8 of 8 December 1995).

**Twenty-seven States whose term of office expires at the close of the ninth regular session of the General Conference, in 2001 (see decision GC.7/Dec.8 of 4 December 1997).

(b) Programme and Budget Committee

In accordance with Article 10.1 of the Constitution, the Programme and Budget Committee shall consist of 27 Members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Committee, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 15 members of the Committee shall be elected from the States listed in Lists A and C, 9 from the States listed in List B and 3 from the States listed in List D of Annex I to the Constitution.

In accordance with Article 10.2, "members of the Committee shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference two years thereafter. Members of the Committee may be re-elected."

At its seventh session, the Conference elected the following States to hold office until the close of the eighth regular session of the Conference in December 1999: Argentina, Brazil, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Item 7. Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sessions

In accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution, the Board shall report to the Conference at each regular session on the activities of the Board. Since the closure of the seventh session of the General Conference, the Board will have held three regular sessions. The Conference will thus have before it the following reports of those sessions:

- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its nineteenth session, 18-19 May 1998 (GC.8/2)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its twentieth session, 19-20 November 1998 (GC.8/3)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its twenty-first session, 23-25 June 1999 (GC.8/4)
- Recommendation of the Industrial Development Board concerning the implications of the euro for UNIDO, to be discussed at its resumed twenty-first session, 29 November 1999 (item 11(g))

Item 8. Annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization for 1997 and 1998

In accordance with rule 13.1 (b), the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include the annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization. The Conference will thus have before it the annual reports of UNIDO for 1997 and 1998, which were submitted to the Board at its nineteenth and twenty-first sessions respectively:

- Annual Report of UNIDO 1997 (including programme performance report) (IDB.19/10, Add.1 and Add.2)
- Annual Report of UNIDO 1998 (including programme performance report) (IDB.21/10, IDB.21/11, IDB.21/12)

Item 9. Forum on industrial development

At its twenty-first session, the Board adopted decision IDB.21/Dec.15 on preparations for the eighth session of the General Conference. In paragraph (c) of that decision, the Board agreed to hold a forum on industrial development within the framework of the Conference. Plans for the forum will be discussed in the informal consultations for the preparation of the session to be conducted by the President of the Board in accordance with paragraph (e) of decision IDB.21/Dec.15.

Item 10. Policy framework of UNIDO

In resolution GC.7/Res.1, the General Conference endorsed the Business Plan on the Future Role and Functions of UNIDO. The Conference called on the Director-General to take action in specified areas and to report through the Board on the implementation of the resolution. The Conference will have before it:

- Progress in the transformation of UNIDO. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/10 and Corr.1)

Item 11. Financial matters

(a) Financial situation of UNIDO, including arrears

At its seventh session, the General Conference reiterated the concerns expressed on the very irregular payment pattern by Member States and the consequences

it might have on the Organization's ability to meet its commitments. The Conference requested the open-ended discussion group on timely payment of assessed contributions, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. Benmoussa (Morocco), to present concrete recommendations to the Board at its nineteenth session (GC.7/Dec.10). In resolution GC.7/Res.2 on the withdrawal of the United States of America, the Conference requested the discussion group, taking into account the difficult financial situation of UNIDO, to examine the various options for the recovery of arrears contained in document IDB.18/18, as well as any other proposals coming from Member States, and to make concrete recommendations to the Board at its nineteenth session. Subsequently, the Board at its nineteenth session adopted the report of the discussion group (IDB.19/12 and Corr.1) and requested the Director-General to take forward the measures recommended therein (IDB.19/Dec.5).

In decision IDB.19/Dec.5, the Board also invited the Director-General to report on a regular basis on the progress achieved in the settlement of arrears and in the timely payment of assessed contributions. In compliance with that mandate, reports were issued to sessions of the Board and of the Programme and Budget Committee under the symbols IDB.19/13, IDB.19/CRP.3, IDB.20/8, PBC.14/CRP.4, IDB.20/11, IDB.20/CRP.3, IDB.21/4, IDB.21/CRP.1 and IDB.21/CRP.5.

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendation of the Board for suspension of financial regulations 4.2(b) and 4.2(c) until the eighth session of the Conference with respect to the unutilized balance of appropriations for the 1992-1993 biennium, for the purpose of retaining the amount of $1,194,924 to partially finance the 1998 staff separation programme (IDB.20/Dec.4, para. (d)).

Also, the Conference will have to take action on the Board's recommendation for distribution of interest income earned in excess of the budgetary estimates for 1999 (IDB.21/Dec.6, para. (b)).

The Conference will have before it:

- Financial situation of UNIDO, including arrears. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/17)

(b) Audit-related matters

In its decision IDB.20/Dec.3, the Board recommended that the General Conference take note of the information provided at the request of the External Auditor in document IDB.20/6 on audit-related matters. The Conference will have before it:

- Note on audit-related matters. Submitted by the Secretariat (IDB.20/6)

(c) Adjustments to the programme and budgets for the 1998-1999 biennium

In order to provide a measure of flexibility in implementing the programme of work, the General Conference allowed the Director-General to submit to the Board for consideration, within the limits of the approved programme and budgets and the financial regulations, proposals that he might judge beneficial for the proper functioning of the Organization (GC.7/Dec.16, para. (e)). The Board, at its twentieth session, endorsed the adjustments to the programme and budgets for 1998-1999 outlined in paragraphs 13 to 21 of document IDB.20/7. The Board requested the Director-General, in accordance with financial regulation 3.9, to submit for approval by the eighth session of the General Conference the necessary supplementary estimates for the current fiscal period for the measures relating to Buildings Management and VIC essential requirements while being implemented in the 1998-1999 biennium, as referred to in paragraphs 22 to 34 of document IDB.20/7 (IDB.20/Dec.5).

The Conference will have before it:

- Adjustments to the programme and budgets, 1998-1999

- Note by the Secretariat (GC.8/12)

- Programme and budgets, 1998-1999. Proposed adjustments to the programme and budgets. Submitted by the Director-General (IDB.20/7)

- The future of Buildings Management Section. Report by the Director-General (IDB.20/18)

- Cost-sharing issues with VIC-based organizations. Report by the Director-General (IDB.21/5)

(d) Scale of assessments of Member States

In accordance with rule 13.1 (k) of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the provisional agenda for each regular session shall include recommendations of the Board for the establishment of the scale of assessments. Article 15 of the Constitution stipulates that regular budget expenditures shall be borne by the Members, as

apportioned in accordance with a scale of assessments established by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, upon the recommendation of the Board. That Article also stipulates that the scale of assessments shall be based to the extent possible on the scale most recently employed by the United Nations and that no Member shall be assessed more than 25 per cent of the regular budget of the Organization.

The Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.21/Dec.3 on scale of assessments
- Scale of assessments for the fiscal period 2000-2001. Note by the Secretariat (IDB.21/3)

(e) Working Capital Fund

In accordance with financial regulation 5.4, upon recommendation of the Programme and Budget Committee and subsequently the Board, the Conference shall determine the amount and purposes of the Working Capital Fund. Financial regulation 5.5 (d) stipulates that advances to the Working Capital Fund shall be assessed and paid in United States dollars.

At its seventh session, the Conference in its decision GC.7/Dec.12 decided that for the 1998-1999 biennium the level of the Working Capital Fund and the authorized purposes of the Fund should remain the same as for the previous bienniums (see decision GC.2/Dec.27).

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendations of the Board concerning the level and purposes of the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2000-2001. Thus, the Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.21/Dec.4 on Working Capital Fund.

(f) Appointment of external auditor

In accordance with financial regulation 11.1, an external auditor, who shall be Auditor-General (or an officer exercising an equivalent function) of a Member State, shall be appointed in the manner and for the period decided by the Conference. By decision GC.7/Dec.13 the Conference decided to extend the appointment of the President of the Federal Court of Audit of Germany as the External Auditor of UNIDO for a period of two years, from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 2000.

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendation of the Board on the question of the appointment of an External Auditor for the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2002, as contained in:

- Board decision IDB.21/Dec.7

(g) Implications of the euro for UNIDO

At its twenty-first session, the Board bore in mind the replacement of the Austrian schilling by the euro and requested the Director-General to prepare a report examining budgetary, operational and financial aspects of the adoption of a single-currency system of assessment based on the euro, for the fiscal period 2002-2003 and in future bienniums (IDB.21/Dec.8). The Board also decided to enlarge the mandate of the intersessional working group on proposed amendments to the financial regulations to discuss all aspects of that issue, and requested the group to submit its conclusions to a resumed twenty-first session of the Board, to be convened on 29 November 1999, for further submission to the eighth session of the Conference, with a view to taking appropriate action and a decision.

The Conference will have to take action on the conclusions of the working group, and will have before it:

- Implications of the euro for UNIDO. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/15-IDB.21/30)
- Implications of the euro for UNIDO. Conclusions of the intersessional working group on proposed amendments to the financial regulations. Report of the Chairman (H.E. Ms. I. Freudenschuss-Reichl, Austria) (GC.8/19-IDB.21/31)

Item 12. Mobilization of financial resources for UNIDO programmes (including Industrial Development Fund)

Information on the activities of the Industrial Development Fund is included in the annual reports of the Organization for 1997 and 1998 and in documents IDB.20/4 and IDB.21/8. Following the precedent established in previous sessions of the Conference in order to save time and money, the pledges to the Fund in 1999 will be made in writing, and the results announced at the end of the eighth session of the Conference.

The Conference will have before it:

- Mobilization of financial resources for UNIDO programmes. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/18)

Item 13. Medium-term programme framework, 2000-2003

In decision GC.7/Dec.15, the General Conference requested the Director-General to submit to the fifteenth session of the Programme and Budget Committee a revised medium-term programme framework, 2000-2003, as concise as possible and closely linked to the new programmatic framework of the programme and budgets. The Conference also requested the Director-General to present to the Board at its twentieth session a preview of the medium-term programme framework, 2000-2003, and a preliminary indicative general ceiling for the programme and budgets, 2000-2001. In compliance with those requests, and pursuant to General Conference decisions GC.2/Dec.23 and GC.6/Dec.10, the Director-General submitted a preview of the medium-term programme framework, 2000-2003, and preliminary indicative general ceiling for the programme and budgets, 2000-2001 (IDB.20/9) and his proposals for a revised medium-term programme framework, 2000-3003 (IDB.21/13).

The Conference will have before it:

- Medium-term programme framework, 2000-2003. Proposals of the Director-General (IDB.21/13)

Item 14. Programme and budgets, 2000-2001

In accordance with Article 14.4 of the Constitution, the Conference shall consider and approve the programme of work and the corresponding regular budget and operational budget submitted to it by the Board, by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting. At its fifteenth session, the Programme and Budget Committee took note of the proposals of the Director-General submitted in document IDB.21/7-PBC.15/7 and requested the Director-General to further examine the possibility of further savings in the proposed budgets. The results of the examination undertaken by the Director-General were submitted to the Board in a conference room paper (IDB.21/CRP.6). Subsequently, at its twenty-first session, the Board adopted for submission to the Conference for consideration and approval the programme and budgets for 2000-2001 as contained in documents IDB.21/7 and IDB.21/CRP.6 (decision IDB.21/Dec.2).

The Conference will have before it:

- Programme and budgets, 2000-2001.Prepared on the basis of Industrial Development Board decision IDB.21/Dec.2. Submitted by the Director-General (GC.8/16)

Item 15. Development of human resources for industry

In resolution GC.7/Res.3, the General Conference emphasized the importance of the human dimension in development and highlighted specific aspects of industrial human resources development relevant to UNIDO. The Conference requested the Director-General to report on the implementation of that resolution to its eighth session, through the Board. Thus, the Conference will have before it:

- Development of human resources for industry. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/9)

Item 16. Industrialization of the least developed countries

Resolution GC.7/Res.4 adopted by the General Conference at its seventh session addressed a number of concerns with respect to the work of UNIDO in support of the least developed countries. The Conference requested the Director-General to submit a progress report on the implementation of that resolution to its eighth session, through the Board. The Conference will have before it:

- Industrialization of the least developed countries. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/5)

Item 17. The regional dimension

(a) Africa (in particular the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa)

The General Conference at its sixth session requested the Director-General to provide progress reports to the Board on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (GC.6/Res.11). Reports on the subject were submitted to the Board at its nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sessions (IDB.19/5, IDB.20/12 and GC.8/6-IDB.21/18).

Resolution GC.7/Res.6 adopted by the General Conference at its seventh session referred to the meeting of donors to be organized by UNIDO. A report on preparations for the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa was submitted to the Board at its twenty-first session (GC.8/6/Add.1-IDB.21/18/Add.1).

The Conference will have before it:

- Implementation of the Business Plan in Africa. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/6)

- Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/6/Add.1)

- Updated documentation will cover the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry as well as the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa.

(b) Arab countries programme, including technical assistance to the Palestinian people

In adopting resolution GC.7/Res.7, the General Conference stressed the need for the Arab countries to enhance their industrial capacities and develop their industrial human resources. Special emphasis was placed on the need to support the least developed Arab countries as well as to strengthen regional industrial cooperation. The Conference addressed a number of requests to the Director-General, who was also requested to report to the Conference, through the Board, on the implementation of that resolution.

The Conference will have before it:

- Arab countries programme, including technical assistance to the Palestinian people. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/7)

(c) Asia and the Pacific

In resolution GC.7/Res.8 the General Conference stipulated a number of elements to be taken into account in the implementation of the Special Programme for the Industrial Development of Asia and the Pacific. The Conference further requested the Director-General to report on the measures taken to implement that resolution to the Board at its twentieth session. At that session, the Board took note of the information contained in the report of the Director-General (IDB.20/14) and requested the Director-General to ensure continued and effective implementation of resolution GC.7/Res.8 and to present an updated report in that regard to the eighth session of the Conference (IDB.20/Dec.9).

The Conference will have before it:

- Implementation of the Business Plan in Asia and the Pacific. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/14)

- UNIDO activities in Asia and the Pacific. Report by the Director-General (IDB.20/14)

(d) Latin America and the Caribbean

In adopting resolution GC.7/Res.9, the General Conference requested the Director-General to take a number of actions in support of Latin America and the Caribbean within the context of the Business Plan. The Conference also requested the Director-General to report to its eighth session, through the Board, on the implementation of that resolution. Subsequently, at its twenty-first session, in decision IDB.21/Dec.9, the Board took note of the information contained in the report of the Director-General (GC.8/8-IDB.21/21) and encouraged him, *inter alia*, to present to the Conference an updated report on measures relating to activities connected with the implementation of the new programmatic approach in the region.

The Conference will have before it:

- Implementation of the Business Plan in Latin America and the Caribbean. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/8 and Add.1)

(e) Europe and NIS

The Industrial Development Board at its twenty-first session, in its debate on preparations for the eighth session of the General Conference, decided to include in the provisional agenda for the Conference an item on Europe and NIS (Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union).

The Conference will have before it:

- Implementation of the Business Plan in Europe and NIS. Report by the Director-General (GC.8/13)

Item 18. Personnel matters, including United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendation of the Board (IDB.21/Dec.12) concerning candidates for election to the UNIDO Staff pension Committee for the years 2000 and 2001. The Conference may also wish to authorize the Board to proceed with the election for any Committee posts which might become vacant before the Conference holds its ninth session.

The Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.21/Dec.12 on administrative matters, including UNIDO Staff Pension Committee

Item 19. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations

In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the provisional agenda for each regular session shall include reports from specialized and related agencies and from other intergovernmental organizations with which UNIDO has concluded a relationship agreement pursuant to Article 19.1 (a) of the Constitution, and items proposed by them, where the agreement establishing the relationship with the organization concerned so provides.

Furthermore, in the guidelines for the relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations adopted by the General Conference at its first session (decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex), it is stipulated that the Director-General shall report to the Conference at each regular session on any agreements with intergovernmental and governmental organizations entered into by him on behalf of the Organization since the preceding regular session as well as on any consultative relations established with non-governmental organizations in the same period.

The Conference will thus have before it decisions IDB.19/Dec.6, IDB.21/Dec.13 and IDB.21/Dec.14 adopted by the Board on the subject at its nineteenth and twenty-first sessions, and a note by the Director-General on developments that have taken place since the seventh session of the Conference.

Item 20. Date and place of the ninth session

Article 8.2 (a) of the Constitution stipulates that the Conference shall hold a regular session every two years, unless it decides otherwise. In the proposals of the Director-General for 2000-2001, provisions have been made for the holding of the ninth session of the General Conference for a duration of five working days. The dates of 3 to 7 December 2001 have been scheduled tentatively for the ninth session of the Conference.

Item 21. Closure of the session

Annex

Draft tentative schedule for the eighth session of the General Conference

Monday, 29 November

a.m.	1st plenary meeting	Opening of session; consideration of agenda items 1-5
p.m.	2nd plenary meeting	Opening of forum on industrial development (agenda item 9)
6.30 p.m.	Industrial Development Board, resumed twenty-first session	

Tuesday, 30 November

a.m.	3rd plenary meeting	Agenda item 9
p.m.	4th plenary meeting	Agenda item 9

Wednesday, 1 December

a.m.	5th plenary meeting	Agenda item 9; closure of forum on industrial development
a.m. and p.m.	Main Committee	Consideration of draft decisions/resolutions on agenda items 7-19

Thursday, 2 December

a.m. and p.m.	Main Committee	Consideration of draft decisions/resolutions on agenda items 7-19

Friday, 3 December

a.m.	6th plenary meeting	Adoption of draft decisions/resolutions emanating from the Main Committee and others
p.m.	7th plenary meeting	Adoption of draft decisions/resolutions emanating from the Main Committee and others; closure of the General Conference